

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A master information carrier having on a surface thereof an irregularity pattern representing information to be magnetically transferred to a magnetic recording medium held in contact with the surface of the master information carrier, wherein the parts of the surface of the master information carrier which are brought into contact with the magnetic recording medium are in the range of 0.3_nm to 10.0_nm in center plane mean surface roughness SRa.

2. (currently amended): A master information carrier as defined in Claim 1 in which the center plane mean surface roughness SRa is in the range of 0.5_nm to 5.0_nm

3. (currently amended): A master information carrier as defined in Claim 2 in which the center plane mean surface roughness SRa is in the range of 0.5_nm to 3.0_nm.

4. (currently amended): A master information carrier as defined in Claim 1 in which said irregularity pattern is formed on a metal substrate and the depth of the irregularity pattern of the metal substrate is 50_nm to 800_nm.

5. (currently amended): A master information carrier as defined in Claim 4 in which the depth of the irregularity pattern of the metal substrate is 80_nm to 600_nm.

6. (original): A master information carrier as defined in Claim 1 in which said irregularity pattern is formed on a metal substrate and the metal substrate is provided with a magnetic layer on the irregularity pattern.

7. (currently amended): A master information carrier as defined in Claim 6 in which the thickness of the magnetic layer is 50_nm to 500_nm.

8. (currently amended): A master information carrier as defined in Claim 7 in which the thickness of the magnetic layer is 150_nm to 400_nm.

9. (currently amended): A master information carrier as defined in Claim 1 in which said irregularity pattern is formed on a resin substrate and the depth of the irregularity pattern of the resin substrate is 50_nm to 1000_nm.

10. (currently amended): A master information carrier as defined in Claim 9 in which the depth of the irregularity pattern of the resin substrate is 200_nm to 500_nm.

11. (original): A master information carrier as defined in Claim 1 in which said irregularity pattern is formed on a resin substrate and the resin substrate is provided with a magnetic layer on the irregularity pattern.

12. (currently amended): A master information carrier as defined in Claim 11 in which the thickness of the magnetic layer is 50_nm to 500_nm.

13. (currently amended): A master information carrier as defined in Claim 12 in which the thickness of the magnetic layer is 150_nm to 400_nm.